

**Coastal Health Strategy Team  
Conference Call Notes from April 18, 2005**

1. The second Great Lakes Collaboration meeting will be held at Grand Traverse (MI), April 28-29.
  - Morning of 4/28: Executive Committee and Strategy Team Co-chairs meet.
  - Afternoon of 4/28: Executive Committee and *all* Strategy Team members meet for an update.
  - Afternoon/evening of 4/28 and morning/afternoon of 4/29: Strategy Teams meet for working sessions. Coastal Health will meet as a team and by category sub-team.
  - Email Joyce Coffee if planning to attend. (jcoffee@cityofchicago.org)
  - Conference calls will allow remote participation in working sessions (1 to 1.5 hours each day; access instructions TBD).
  - Email Joyce Coffee if interested in conference call participation. (jcoffee@cityofchicago.org)
  
2. All team members' written contributions were compiled in a single draft chapter with appendices. Comments from today's call and those emailed to Joyce by close-of-business Tuesday 4/19 will be incorporated into the version sent to the Executive Committee on 4/21 and reviewed in Grand Traverse (*refer to draft chapter and appendices documents distributed with conference call agenda*).
  - Don Zelazny and Marcia Jimenez thanked team members for their written contributions.
  - Don noted that the challenge ahead is to maintain the chapter's critical elements (recommendations, justifications, priorities, etc.), but keep it to a maximum of five pages. The team can look to the Executive Committee for advice on reducing length during the Grand Traverse meeting.
  - Don provided a walk-through of the draft with attention to key points, then turned to action items/revisions before the 4/21 due date, then issues to hold and address in depth at Grand Traverse.
  - Don suggested that the team revisit the milestone dates in the Recommended Timeframe sections to make sure they flow logically and are consistent, e.g., match to the Desired State date of 2010.
  - David Rockwell suggested footnoting category-specific dates attributed to other sources.
  - Mike Shriver suggested changing "limited" to "minimum feasible" in the Desired State.
  - Don noted the order and content of the Appendices, particularly the Wet Weather detail in Appendix D. The team should revisit this text and possibly move portions to the chapter itself.
  - Margaret Wooster explained that the Wet Weather goal in Appendix D is a consolidated goal that should replace the individual Wet Weather goals in Appendix A; those are now reflected in the timeframe, covered by NPS, or no longer relevant. The focus is on *all* wet weather overflows and this label should replace the separate CSO and SSO labels in the Problem Statement.
  - Joyce said that these changes will be made before 4/21. One task for Grand Traverse is to evaluate whether all listed Goals are addressed in the Alternative Approaches and Recommended Actions.
  - Don noted two chapter gaps: algal blooms (currently in progress) and drinking water. Don and several team members have been pulling together information on drinking water from LaMPs and RAPs (no restrictions, but taste and odor issues identified), statewide assessments (no chronic threats, only episodic event threats), and the EPA Drinking Water Needs Survey (estimated \$102 billion needed immediately nationwide for drinking water infrastructure and treatment).
  - Bill Ward will break out the Great Lakes States' portion of the \$102 billion.
  - David noted that the benefits analysis under the Beach Management Recommended Action was intended to serve broadly as a foundation for the other categories, too.
  - Joyce explained that the analysis was inserted there because it focused on beach closures. Similar robust cost/benefit analyses are needed for the other Recommended Actions but haven't been written yet. This is another task to cover at Grand Traverse.
  - Margaret suggested that the team reach beyond existing problems and aim for state-of-the-art systems and solutions, e.g., tertiary waste water treatment, looking to other models or other countries' BMPs. The chapter does not reflect that aim in the Problem Statement (which is currently corrective) or Recommended Actions.
  - Sheili Pfeiffer noted that the Lake Superior Bayfield plant is an excellent example of this.

- Dale Bryson cited a version of Murphy’s Law, “If you think big enough, nothing will get done,” and suggested that the team focus on biteable chunks of progress, e.g., only 77 of 147 communities have long-term control plans (LTCPs) for CSOs.
  - Don suggested citing an example in the chapter, but maintaining the LTCP emphasis.
  - Margaret will contribute a couple sentences/bullet points to cover this.
  - Sheili will provide reference info on the Lake Superior example.
  - Don suggested that Environment Canada may be a good source for additional examples.
  - Julie Kinzelman noted that Dry Weather impacts cause 50% of beach closures. The team should make sure it remains a focus and doesn’t get lost in the Wet Weather emphasis. Not all communities are affected by CSOs, but they still have beach closures due to Dry Weather impacts. Communities with both impacts (Wet and Dry Weather) have to figure out which is responsible.
  - Don suggested citing in the chapter that Dry Weather impacts cause 50% of beach closures.
  - Shannon Briggs noted that the Illicit Discharge Elimination Program (IDEP, part of the NDPS permit program) in Michigan is a good example of an existing program that addresses Dry Weather impacts. It could be cited in the chapter in the Recommended Actions.
  - Don referred the team to [www.rougeriver.com](http://www.rougeriver.com) as another example.
  - Joyce noted that Julie assembled Appendix E, the Ongoing Efforts list. Please email Julie – [jkinzelman@cityofracine.org](mailto:jkinzelman@cityofracine.org), with any additional references to add to the list. An “existing programs” section should be added to the list and readers should be encouraged to refer to it.
3. Don and Joyce introduced Appendix C, the draft priority-setting matrix, which will be discussed in detail at Grand Traverse. Its purpose is to tell Congress what our biggest problem is.
- Shannon suggested considering which items already have existing programs when prioritizing.
  - Julie and David noted that Dry Weather impacts are not adequately addresses by existing programs.
  - Don noted that, in terms of dollars, solutions to Dry Weather impacts may not be as costly.
  - Shannon explained that Beach Management tools show whether Wet or Dry weather impacts are responsible, and that once the Wet Weather spikes are gone, the Dry Weather problems persist. States and municipalities will differ in which are the more critical impacts to address.
  - Dale suggested that the priority-setting matrix should represent “bang for the buck.”
  - Julie revised the matrix Dry Weather line to “Identify, educate, and remediate”
  - Margaret revised the matrix Wet Weather line to “Wet weather overflow remediation” (which includes storm water).
  - Margaret suggested moving the Evaluation of Alternative Approaches section to the appendix to save space and to improve the flow, because each team approached that section differently.
4. Joyce noted that the team will have a chance to make *major* revisions at Grand Traverse.
- Small working groups will break out to cover each individual category.
  - The team will collectively discuss and revise the action prioritization.
  - There are two major focus areas:
    - Cost accounting/justification (particularly for dollar amounts in Wet Weather events).
    - More explicit recommendations, tied to specific agencies (may vary by State).
  - Questions/recommendations on outstanding studies will be sent to the Indicators Team.
5. Joyce noted that *minor* edits on the current draft are due by close of business on Tuesday 4/19.
- Edits should be made with the MSWord “Track Changes” feature and emailed to Joyce.
  - Joyce will email the revised draft and appendices to the team on 4/21, at the same time that they go out to the Executive Committee and Tribal Caucus. They will also be posted on the team website.
6. Grand Traverse logistics:
- The resort will announce team meeting locations and direct members to the right conference rooms.
  - Notes will be provided to team members who cannot attend in person.
  - At Grand Traverse, the team will determine the schedule for subsequent meetings/conference calls.